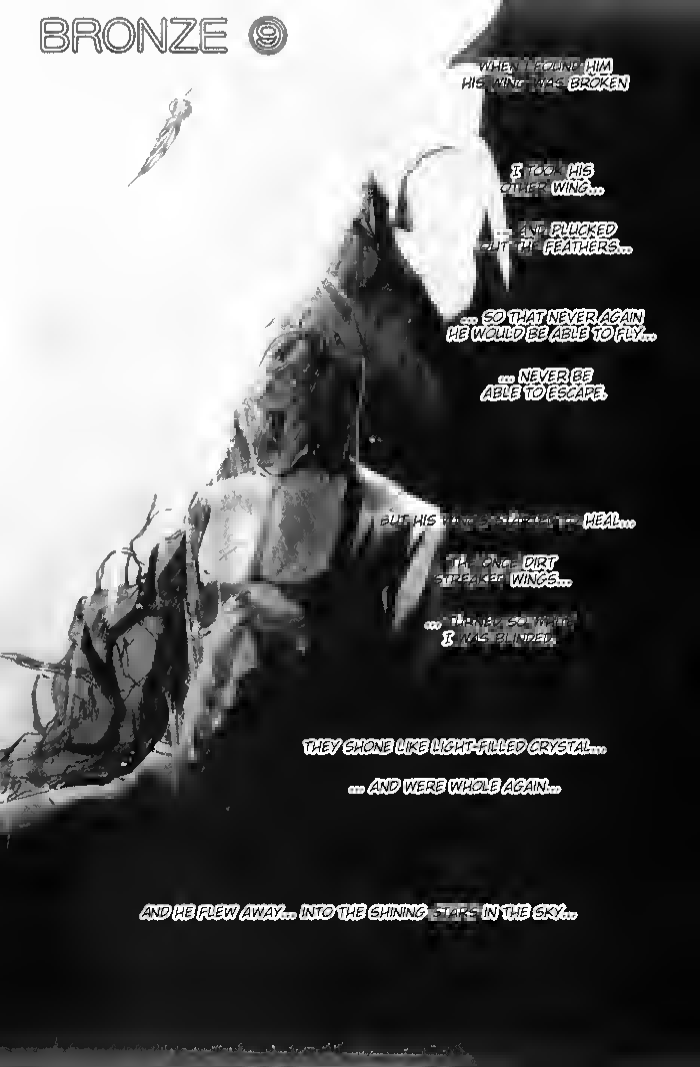
BRONZE (9)

♥ Volume 33 (3)
♥ Volume 34 (39)
♥ Volume 35 (69)
♥ Volume 36 (101)
♥ Volume 37 (135)
♥ Volume 38 (169)


WHEN I FOUND HIM
HIS WING WAS BROKEN
I TOOK HIS OTHER WING...
AND PLUCKED OUT ITS FEATHERS...
... SO THAT NEVER AGAIN HE WOULD BE ABLE TO FLY...
... NEVER BE ABLE TO ESCAPE.
BUT HIS HEAL...
DIRT WINGS...
I
THEY SHONE LIKE LIGHT-FILLED CRYSTAL...
... AND WERE WHOLE AGAIN...
AND HE FLEW AWAY... INTO THE SHINING STARS IN THE SKY...

ZETSUAI Since 1989

BRONZE

9

VOLUME 33 "ONE LAST KISS"

by Minami Ozaki

[illegible] MAKES ME HAPPY.
[illegible] MAKE ME HAPPY [illegible] SEE HIM
[illegible]

WHEN IZUMI LAUGHS
I AM HAPPY.

THERE'S NOTHING UNTRUE
ABOUT THIS AND YET...

... I AM [illegible] WITH JEALOUSY...

... BECAUSE IT IS NOT I
WHO IS MAKING HIM HAPPY...

BECAUSE [illegible] THIS THING CALLED
"SOCCER" IS WHAT BROUGHT HIM BACK TO LIFE... BECAUSE ON
MY OWN I COULD NEVER HAVE MADE HIM LAUGH LIKE THAT!
AM I SUFFERING BECAUSE MY BELOVED IS MADE HAPPY BY
[illegible] ENJOYS? THAT AN EGOIST!!

AN UGLY CREATURE LIKE MYSELF
KOJI!!
SLAM
IT'S OK
SORRY. THE COACH AND SOME JOURNALISTS DETAINED ME
I'D BETTER GET A DRIVER'S LICENSE OF MY OWN
GAP
AND A SHINING STAR SUCH AS YOU
WHAT IF YOU HAVE AN ACCIDENT?
NO WAY!!
AS LONG AS I DRIVE YOU I AT LEAST SEE YOU REGULARLY.
IT IS JUST YOU MUSTN'T TAKE THAT FROM ME
UH.. I'M SORRY.

AH...
JEEZ!
WHY DO I THINK LIKE THAT?! WHY CAN'T I BE GLAD FOR HIM?!
I AM SUCH A BASTARD!
AGAIN...
... HE'S MAKING SUCH A SERIOUS FACE.
LOOK... FROM NOW ON I WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL OFTEN
I DON'T WANT TO DRAG YOU ALONG TO GOD KNOWS WHERE... SO, WELL...
AND YOU'VE GOT A JOB OF YOUR OWN, DON'T YOU?
THE MATCH JUST NOW... I HAVE BEEN WATCHING.
IS YOUR LEG OKAY? YOU SEEM TO PUT MUCH STRESS ON IT.
YES!
HERE, I KNOW HOW TO MAKE HIM LOOK HAPPY.
IT WAS A PIECE OF CAKE, REALLY. I WAS SURPRISED MYSELF!

IZUMI IS SO KIND AND TRUE OF HEART.
THANKS TO THE TRAINING MY BODY FEELS LIGHTER THAN BEFORE!
I HAVE PUT ON SOME WEIGHT BUT MY MUSCLES ARE AS ELASTIC AS A SPRING!
MY LEG DOESN'T HURT ANY MORE! I CAN RUN WITH ALL MY STRENGTH!
GAP
LOOK AT THAT
EVEN MY FINGERTIPS ARE EXHAUSTED!
FOR HIM I WOULD ACCEPT ANY HARDSHIP, ANY PAIN AND SUFFERING

STRONGER THAN ANYONE ELSE, THAN ANYTHING ELSE!
YEAH
I WANT TO PLAY SO MUCH MORE SOCCER!
I WANT TO RUN SO MUCH FASTER, JUMP SO MUCH HIGHER, GET SO MUCH STRONGER!

YOU WILL BE THE PRIDE OF THIS COUNTRY. THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE BORN FOR.
YOU WILL GET MORE BEAUTIFUL, BIGGER AND STRONGER.
I AM TAKEN UP BY THE BEAUTIFUL IZUMI.
HMMM... YES.
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT HIM TO HATE ME. EVEN AS I DON'T WANT TO WISH...
I AM TORN APART, DIVIDED INTO TWO HALVES.
... HAS BEEN BORN FOR ME!
BUT IZUMI...
YES. YOU SHOULD DO THAT.
YOU'VE BEEN CHOSEN TO BE THE ONE TO HOLD IN YOUR HAND THAT 'THING' NO ONE CAN REACH.
I DON'T NEED ANYTHING BUT YOUR SMILING FACE... I WISH I COULD WATCH IT FOREVER.
NO, HE HASN'T...

YOU'RE TOO GOOD...
FOR A ROTTEN, DIRTY MAN LIKE ME
YOU TOUCH THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE.
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK, MR SUPER-STAR!
LOOK AT ALL YOUR FANS. WHEN YOU SING...
...SINGING MEANS NOTHING TO ME!
I JUST WANTED TO FIND YOU. I NEVER THOUGHT OF ANYTHING BUT YOU.
AT SOME TIME...
I...
I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH TALENT I HAVE IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME AT ALL. I DON'T NEED IT.
WHETHER I MOVE SOMETHING IN OTHER PEOPLE I DON'T CARE.
NO...

... THE FLAME OF MY LIFE WILL...
... FADE...
I'D RATHER BE LOVED BY A SINGLE PERSON...
...THAN BY A MILLION OTHERS.
I WANT TO BE LOVED...
AT SOME TIME...

...I WILL BE...
ONLY ASHES...
BY
THE ONE
I LOVE.
AND THIS WILL END.

WHAT?
SURPRISE
DONE ALREADY?

I WROTE FIVE AND KOJI THE ANOTHER THREE. ALL EIGHT SONGS ARE FINISHED.
HA HA HA
I COMPOSED A VIOLIN INTRO FOR GUNJI AND I'LL PLAY THE PIANO IN THE OUTRO.
WE DID THE VOCALS IN ONE DAY...
EIGHT SONGS ON A SINGLE DAY?
wince
All of them?
WE HARDLY HAD TO DO ANY RETAKES
Without a problem.
ALL SONGS ARE DONE BEFORE THE VIDEOS!
THE SHOOTING WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!
DESPAIR
THAT'S NOT NORMAL! STOP IT!
I'm scared! Mommy!
HOW SHOULD I SAY IT.
HE IS SOMEHOW DIFFERENT...

HE HAS STAYED TRUE TO HIS OLD STYLE...
BUT INTRODUCED COMPLETELY NEW ELEMENTS SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE SOME TIME AGO!
IT'S LIKE HE IS POSSESSED OR SOMETHING. EVERY SONG HAS A NEW MESSAGE... AND THAT WITHOUT SEEMING FORCED!
UMM...
STOP CRYING!
Ave Maria...
CRIES
THE ALMIGHTY HAS ANSWERED OUR PRAYERS...

THIS NEW RECORD IS THE REBIRTH OF KOJI NANJO... NO ..
THE BIRTH OF 'KREUZ'!
CLICK
CLICK
KREUZ

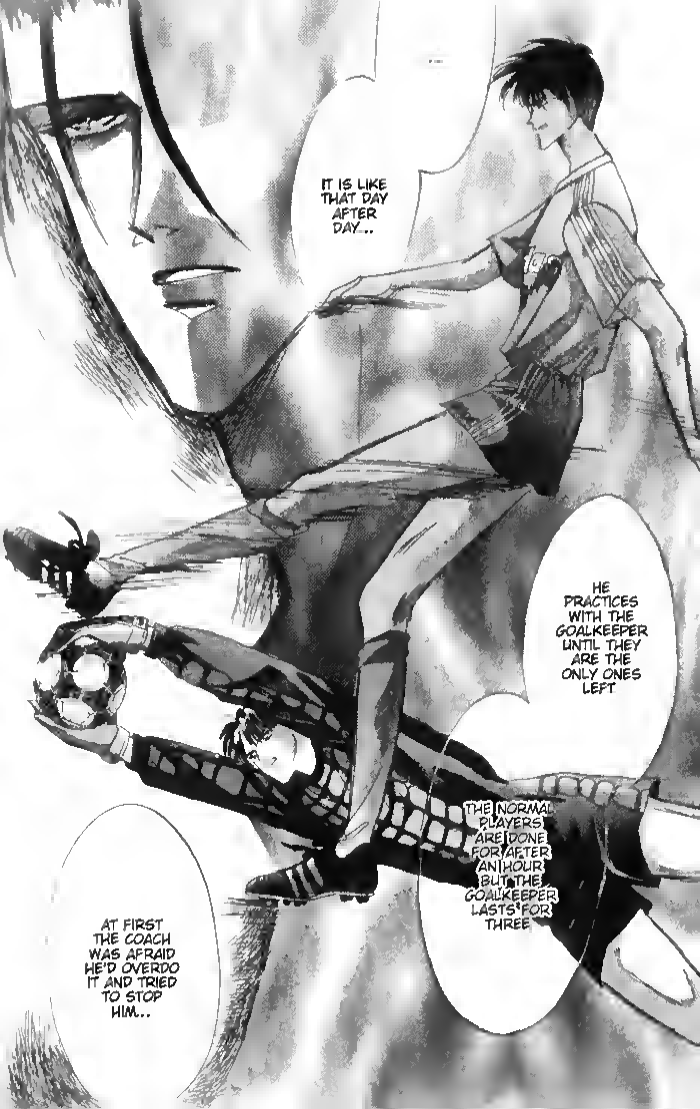
ベルベット

NISSAN F.C
CAN YOU SIGN AN AUTOGRAPH? CAN WE TAKE A PHOTO WITH YOU?
EEEK!
It is him!
ARE YOU KOJI NANJO?
SORRY
sigh

KOJI NANJO IS SITTING IN ANY WEATHER AMIDST A HOARD OF SCREECHING GIRLS AND WATCHES HIS SOCCER PLAYER TRAIN.
THE MAGAZINES, THE SPORTS NEWS - EVEN THE HOMO PRESS - ARE HAVING A FIELD DAY
Your affairs don't cut you any more slack.
THE OLD KOJI WOULD HAVE BRUSHED THEM OFF WITH A SIMPLE 'FUCK OFF'
Yi Yi
YOU ought to fuck off
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
Your right hand writes your fate, dork!
WHAT A MOVING REBUFF
ZOOM
WHAT AM I HEARING?!
STUPID COWS!
I'M SORRY, MY LABEL DOESN'T ALLOW ANY PHOTOS
AND I CAN'T WRITE WITH THE ARTIFICIAL LIMB
OH
S-SORRY!
TAP TAP
UH.. WE'LL ALWAYS BE YOUR FANS!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
YOUR LOVE IS A BEAUTIFUL THING, BUT FOR MOST ORDINARY PEOPLE IT IS SOMETHING ABNORMAL AND DISGUSTING
IT'S TWICE AS HARD FOR A STAR LIKE YOU.
AND NOW IZUMI IS ALSO A STAR.
A SOCCER STAR, NONETHELESS HE HAS TO BE CAREFUL WITH HIS IMAGE. HE MIGHT REPRESENT JAPAN AT SOME TIME
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
THEY ARE GOING TO TREAT HIM
...LIKE DIRT

'HE LETS KOJI NANJO DO HIM.' - THAT'S WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO SAY
DO YOU WANT HIM TO BE TREATED LIKE A PERVERT?
WELL, AT LEAST THIS TIME YOU DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON ME.
GNN
KOJI...


IT IS LIKE THAT DAY AFTER DAY...
HE PRACTICES WITH THE GOALKEEPER UNTIL THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES LEFT
THE NORMAL PLAYERS ARE DONE FOR AFTER AN HOUR, BUT THE GOALKEEPER LASTS FOR THREE
AT FIRST THE COACH WAS AFRAID HE'D OVERDO IT AND TRIED TO STOP HIM...

PLEASE!
I'LL GO CRAZY IF I CAN'T TRAIN! I WON'T OVERDO IT!
I WANT TO TRAIN MORE!
You should try to be more like him!
The kid is really giving his everything.
Look at Zosi
I LOVE...
...SOCCER!

I, TOO...
...SHOULD HAVE STARTED PLAYING SOCCER... AS A FORWARD OR AS A GOALKEEPER, MAYBE...
Ha!
A STUPID, CHILDISH THOUGHT!
I'VE REGRETTED IT EVER SINCE
I WOULD HAVE BEEN WITH HIM ALWAYS, ALL NATURALLY...
WHEN I FOUND IZUMI...
THAT'S TYPICAL FOR TAKU-CHAN...
A true soccer addict!

GRRRR
AN
FLINCH
automatic reflex
SHORTS DON'T SUIT YOU. BE GLAD YOU DIDN'T DO IT.
Honestly!
Ok, the goalkeeper is cute, but a totally different type
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HOLY SHIT...
To the parking lot?
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GO THROUGH THERE?
Typical!
STOMP
STOMP

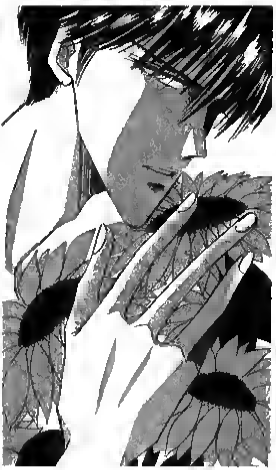
STOMP STOMP STOMP
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
Eeeek! Kaji!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
Ha Ha
WHAT A STUBBORN IDIOT!
Through all those flashlights...
I bet that one is from some magazine!
AFTER WAITING FOR TWENTY MINUTES IN THE PARKING LOT...
CUT IT OUT!
My girlfriend is a fan of yours!
HI THERE!
HO! MALE GROUPIES, TAKU?
You'd better watch out!
SHIBUYA, YOU ARE HERE, TOO?
adidas
JEEZ, SHIBUYA!
OH, JUST KIDDING
pat

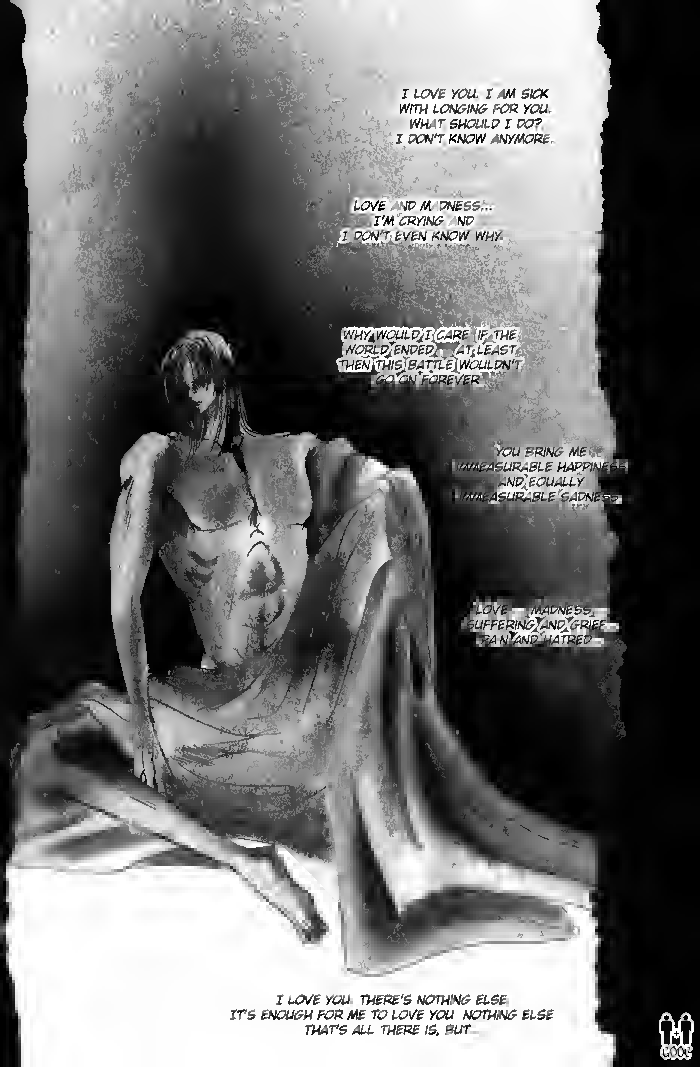
VROOOM
BY THE WAY,
NEXT WEEK I'M OFF TO A TRAINING CAMP
CAMP?
WHERE? FOR HOW LONG?
TO KUMAMOTO! FOR, UH .. TWO WEEKS
I think.
BUT..
IF I DO WELL, I'LL BE ALLOWED TO PLAY IN THE SECOND HALF OF A REAL MATCH
...
THAT'S A VERY IMPORTANT TRAINING CAMP.
IZUMI..?
WILL YOU BUY ME A SOUVENIR?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IN KUMAMOTO THEY MAKE BRANDY FROM MANDARINS
IT'S UNIQUE IN THE WHOLE WORLD.
Delicious
BRANDY? YOU WANT TO GET DRUNK AGAIN?
smile
NOT REALLY
WHAT'S EXTRAORDINARY ABOUT THIS BRANDY IS ITS EXQUISITE AROMA. YOU DON'T JUST CHUG IT DOWN.
YOU ENJOY IT SLOWLY IN A SPECIAL GLASS. IT'S A DELICACY
BUY SOME AND I'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO DRINK IT.
...HOW ABOUT IT...?

SWALLOWS
I?
RAMEN, OF COURSE!
cringe
turn
adidas
A- ALRIGHT, I'LL REMEMBER.
SHIBUYA, DO YOU WANT SOMETHING, TOO?
In Kumamoto you have to eat noodle soup! Damn, now I'm hungry!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH ME? I'M THE ONE WHO IS GOING AWAY...
FOR A SECOND I THOUGHT HE'S SAY 'I'M COMING WITH YOU'...

AND YET IT FEELS AS THOUGH...
.. HE IS LEAVING ME BEHIND




I LOVE YOU. I AM SICK WITH LONGING FOR YOU. WHAT SHOULD I DO? I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE.
LOVE AND MADNESS... I'M CRYING AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY.
WHY WOULD I CARE IF THE WORLD ENDED, AT LEAST THEN THIS BATTLE WOULDN'T GO ON FOREVER.
YOU BRING ME IMMEASURABLE HAPPINESS AND, EQUALLY IMMEASURABLE SADNESS.
LOVE... MADNESS, SUFFERING AND GRIEF... PAIN AND HATRED...
I LOVE YOU. THERE'S NOTHING ELSE. IT'S ENOUGH FOR ME TO LOVE YOU. NOTHING ELSE. THAT'S ALL THERE IS, BUT...

... IF THAT IS ALL THERE IS ... THEN WHY IS IT SO HARD?

VOLUME 34 NOT ENOUGH

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN FOR SO LONG?
YOU DIDN'T EVEN SAY GOODBYE TO TAKU-
CHIKU
Good old Shibuya...

UHM.
I WAS ALREADY AFRAID YOU'D BEEN IN ANOTHER ACCIDENT!
HE'S GIVEN ME HIS NUMBER GIVE HIM A CALL TOMORROW, ALL RIGHT?
Good thing you don't have a bike anymore.
YUCK! YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU?
TAKU-CHAN HAS HARDLY LEFT AND YOU'RE ALREADY STARTING ABOUT THAT AGAIN!
DON'T YOU EVER LEARN?!
AAH... BE QUIET...
Don't yell like that
SLAM!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I'M OUT OF HERE!
WHY DID I EVEN BOTHER WORRYING!

"YOU WILL DRAW ATTENTION, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO."
WHY I DIDN'T TELL HIM GOODBYE...?
YOU TOLD ME THAT YOURSELF THOUSANDS OF TIMES, FOOL!
"OF COURSE, YOUR FANS ARE MISSING YOU LIKE CRAZY."
"IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU OFTEN VISIT THE TRAINING FIELD SO YOUR FANS ALL HANG OUT THERE."
"IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN."
"I CAN ALREADY IMAGINE THE SNEERING HEADLINES IN THE MAGAZINES!"
HMPH
THUD
"OH WELL, WHETHER YOU'RE GIVING CONCERTS OR NOT, WHETHER YOU'RE ON TV OR NOT, AND WHETHER YOU'RE TRYING TO BE ONE OF US 'NORMAL' PEOPLE OR NOT, CERTAIN THINGS WILL NEVER CHANGE."

"YOU'LL ALWAYS DRAW ATTENTION TO YOURSELF. IT'S IN YOUR BLOOD."
WHAT SHOULD I DO. GET PLASTIC SURGERY AND CHANGE MY FACE?
DAMN IT!

YOU MUST BE ASLEEP ALREADY BY NOW... IZUMI...
GOOD NIGHT...
I WON'T DISTURB YOU.
I LOVE YOU
...PLEASE, DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME.

DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME...
DRIII
FIGHT!
DRIII
FIGHT!
DRIII

DRII DRII!
GO ON!!
adidas
HEY, HEY! DON'T GROW WEAK NOW!
But you were already weak when we arrived!
Kyaaa! Why don't you kill us right away and get it over with!
WEAKLING!
GOOK
DIDN'T YAMA-SAN SAY THAT TO TRAIN HERE IS TO DIE A SLOW DEATH?
AAARGH!
Didn't anyone ever tell him swimmers usually take the place where it's nice and cool?
HUFF PANT
HUFF HUFF
TO IMPROVE YOUR ENDURANCE!
Newbies
WIPE

TH
UD
zzzzzzzz
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
Hmph?
Sleepy-heads

SWOOP
OOWAAHHH!
WOW! PLAYING SOCCER TILL WE DROP!
I'm starving!
Hardest until dinner
SURE FEELS GOOD THOUGH, DOESN'T IT?
I PLAY AS MUCH SOCCER AS I CAN, AND GET AS MUCH SLEEP AS I NEED
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN HERE ALREADY...?

I FEEL LIKE I BELONG HERE
I'M GOING TO GRAB A BITE
TWO, THREE, FOUR DAYS...?
I really don't know!
HOP
I didn't think to make a calendar
GROWL
EVERY DAY I SPEND DOING NOTHING BUT THINGS THAT I ENJOY TO DO...
AND EAT
AND SLEEP
EH?
Sure. I'll manage just fine.
Sleepyheads
Munch, munch
OVER THERE SITS ANOTHER MONSTER LIKE HIM
WOW
ARE YOU GOING TO EAT ALL OF THAT?
adidas
JUST PLAY SOCCER, AND NOT HAVE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE. I COULD GO ON LIKE THIS FOREVER.
GOOD

FOR ONCE I'M LIVING IN LITTER LUXURY
IF THERE'S ANYTHING I WISH FOR I
creak
RUBBISH!
twitch
WHATEVER COULD I WISH FOR THAT I DON'T HAVE ALREADY?
R.

KOJI?
HELLO ?!
WHOOSH
TCHAK
TRR

BLUSH

KOJI? IS IT YOU?
WHO IS THIS?

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
SAY SOMETHING, YOU MORON!
FORGIVE ME!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO DISTURB YOU NOT EVEN BY A MERE PHONE-CALL...
BUT... I... I JUST PICKED UP THE RECEIVER AND DIALED...
I... I'M JUST IN A BIT OF A STRANGE MOOD TODAY. SORRY I'LL GO NOW. HAVE A NICE DAY...
WHO IS THIS?!
WAIT A MINUTE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! YOU'RE NOT DISTURBING ME, REALLY!
OH...
I'M SORRY.

Uhm...
so, how are things over there?
HM...
IT'S PROFESSIONAL TRAINING THEY'RE GOOD AT THEIR JOB.
And how are you feeling?
SILENCE
...
I GET UP EARLY, EAT, TRAIN, EAT, TAKE A NAP, TRAIN, EAT AND GO TO BED. Every day's the same.
I EAT A LOT. I SLEEP A LOT, TOO. THAT'S MAKING ME FEEL HEALTHY AGAIN. I LIKE IT HERE!
IT'S TOUGH, BUT I'M OKAY.
AH...
KOJI'S VOICE CAN BE VERY SOOTHING ...
... BUT IT'S ALSO A LITTLE BIT UNEASY.
WELL ...
SOUNDS REALLY EXCITING ...

THIS DEEP VOICE... IT VIBRATES THROUGHOUT MY WHOLE BODY
HM...
I CAN'T RECALL HOW LONG I'VE BEEN HERE
EIGHT DAYS...
OH... SO IT'S BEEN EIGHT DAYS
EIGHT DAYS IZUMI...?
KOJI?
SQUEEZE

I...
KOJI...!
...!
I'M SORRY ... IZUMI!
WOULD IT BE SO BAD IF I CAME TO VISIT YOU? I SWEAR I'LL STAY IN MY HOTEL-ROOM ALL DAY, WITOUT EVER GOING OUT! I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE NOT TO DRAW ANY ATTENTION!
IZUMI ... I WON'T KEEP YOU FROM YOUR SOCCER GAMES!
BUT I MISS YOU! I MISS YOU SO VERY MUCH!

I... I'M SORRY
I UNDERSTAND I'D ONLY BE A BURDEN TO YOU...
Forget...
AFTER ALL, YOU WENT THERE... TO FOCUS ON SOCCER
FORGET WHAT I SAID I WAS BEING
FORGIVE...
WAIT A SECOND!

ARE YOU ... SERIOUS?
MY PRESENCE WON'T BOTHER YOU?
HOW ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BURDEN ME? WHAT DO I DO HERE, ASIDE FROM EATING AND SLEEPING?!
AND ASIDE FROM THAT - WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL SOONER?!
YOU DIDN'T EVEN GIVE ME TIME FOR AN ANSWER, YOU IDIOT!
GEEZ, YOU'RE SLOW!
IDIOT!!
What if you cause an accident?! You drive like a maniac!
PLANES CAN CRASH, TOO!
OH WELL, IF I CAN'T CATCH A PLANE, I'LL TAKE THE CAR AND DRIVE AS FAST AS I CAN!
startled
N-now?! But it's way too late for any flights to leave today!
OKAY
I'LL TAKE THE FIRST FLIGHT I'LL LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU AT THE RECEPTION COME VISIT ME IN MY ROOM IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT

THINK ABOUT WHAT I WENT THROUGH WHEN YOU HAD THAT ACCIDENT!
DON'T ACT CUTE!
IF YOU WANT TO DRIVE TO KUMAMOTO, YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO COME HERE!
PANT
I love you
IS THAT SO?
Songs, videos and photographs Everything's all done.
phew
Uhm...
HAVE YOU FINISHED YOUR NEW ALBUM ALREADY?
sigh...
ALL RIGHT, I UNDERSTAND...
IF THERE AREN'T ANY MORE FLIGHTS TODAY, I'LL TAKE THE FIRST PLANE THAT LEAVES TOMORROW MORNING

GOOL
I LOVE YOU...
I LOVE YOU.
I LOVE YOU.
IS SOMETHING WRONG, IZUMI? YOU'RE USUALLY NOT THIS TIRED.
OH, COACH! DON'T WORRY I'M FINE!
UHM...
WHEN DOES THE LAST PLANE FROM TOKYO AIRPORT TAKE OFF?
AROUND SIX O'CLOCK, I THINK.
Why do you ask?
HE WON'T MAKE IT THIS EVENING
OF COURSE, TO SOME DESTINATIONS YOU CAN GET LATER FLIGHTS FUKUOKA, FOR EXAMPLE
YOU CAN GET FROM THERE TO HERE BY TAXI IN ABOUT THREE HOURS

CREAK
THREE HOURS TO GET HERE
SHAAAA
FUCK

GOOL
WELCOME
TAP
MY NAME IS SHIBUYA.
I'D LIKE TO LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR IZUMI-SAN IN ROOM 501
IF YOU COULD PLEASE FILL THIS OUT
BUT OF COURSE WHAT SHOULD I TELL HIM?
NO.
A WRITTEN MESSAGE.
AS YOU WISH.
HE'S PROBABLY ALREADY ASLEEP. SHOVE THE NOTE UNDER HIS DOOR

I WILL HAVE YOUR LUGGAGE DELIVERED TO YOUR ROOM
NO THANKS I DON'T NEED ANY HELP
AS YOU WISH GOOD NIGHT
TAP TAP
TAP
SLAM

THUD
phew
ELEVEN O'CLOCK
HE'S DEFINITELY ASLEEP ALREADY

TAP
KNOCK
KNOCK
TCH/K
PANT
PANT
tremble

IZUMI...!!

KOJI...
PU
SH
...!
IZUMI
.?

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN ... I'M SUCH A FOOL ...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
IZUMI?
hesitates
SLAP
DON'T TOUCH ME!
YOU'VE SLEPT WITH SOMEONE ELSE!
adidas

Volume 35 "Envy and Jealousy"

DON'T ACT SO STUPID!
tremble
WHY DID YOU COME ANYWAY?
...IZUMI?

GRAB
DAMN ..! LET GO!
OW...!
SLAM
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER! I CAN SMELL THE PERFUME!
YOU BASTARD! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ?!
ARE YOU JEALOUS? IS THAT IT?

BUSH
DON'T TALK RUBBISH, YOU ARROGANT PEACOCK! LET GO!
I CAN'T GET IT UP
WHAT DO I CA...!
JUST LIKE I SAID! I TRIED IT WITH PLENTY OF WOMEN, BUT...
NOTHING
EH?
can't get it up?

EVERY NIGHT WITHOUT YOU IS PURE TORTURE!
OH, SO THAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?
WHAT ARE YOU, A DOG?!
Dammit
DON'T TWIST THE FACTS!
HOW ELSE WAS I GOING TO SURVIVE TWO WEEKS WITHOUT YOU?!
NOTHING EXCITES ME MORE THAN YOU! MY WHOLE WORLD HAS BEEN TURNED UPSIDE DOWN
YOU...
FLUSH
YES, A DOG!
NOTHING. ONLY YOU...
YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND - I JUST NEED TO THINK OF YOU AND I CAN COME OVER AND OVER!
I WAS AFRAID THAT I'D TURN OUT TO BE GAY! OR IMPOTENT! I DID TRY WITH A MAN, BUT ALL HE GAVE ME WAS A TURNED STOMACH!

W-WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE EXCITING ABOUT ANOTHER MAN'S BODY?
...
adidas
SHAKE
WHO ...
... WHO DID YOU SLEEP WITH?
NOT ANOTHER MAN'S BODY'.
YOUR BODY BECAUSE IT'S YOUR BODY AREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME?

ALL RIGHT! I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.
covers up
ARGH
WELL, THE FIRST ONE
umph!
JUST SHUT UP!
lick
WHOOSH
WHA...
SNAP

UWAH!
riff
ARE YOU INSANE?
YOU CAN'T SIMPLY CARRY ME AROUND LIKE THIS!
...
URGH
YOUR ARM'S GOING TO FALL OFF!

FLAP
I'VE...
...BEEN MISSING YOU.
CREAK
...IZUMI.

A MERE EIGHT DAYS ...
... MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WOULD DIE
I SIMPLY CAN'T STAND IT.
I KNOW I SHOULD GET USED TO THINGS LIKE THIS. THAT THIS WILL HARDLY BE THE ONLY TIME ..
I TRIED TO BE COOL ABOUT IT, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.
I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH.
WITHOUT YOU, I CAN BARELY EVEN REMEMBER TO BREATHE.

ENVY SOCCER?
WHAT FOR?
IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL ENVY SOCCER...
smile.
I'M SIMPLY POSSESSIVE
... FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M COMP RING YOU AND SOCCER.
YOUR
EYES ARE BEAUTIFUL.

NOTHING ELSE MATTERS ...
... AS LONG AS I CAN BE WITH YOU.
NOW I KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE...
.. TO HAVE LOST YOUR HEART

IZUMI? I WAS WONDERING...
ABOUT WHAT?
DO YOU FANTASIZE ABOUT WOMEN, WHEN YOU MASTURBATE? YOU KNOW, WITH MOVIES, MAGAZINES...
BLUSH
COME ON, TELL ME. I'M CURIOUS. I WON'T BE ANGRY, I PROMISE.
JUMP
ARE YOU STUPID?!
IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL, ISN'T IT? NAME ONE PERSON OUR AGE WHO DOESN'T DO THINGS LIKE THAT.
HOW SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT THAT? IDIOT!
TELL ME IT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING.
YOU'RE ALL MEN OVER THERE. DON'T YOU TALK ABOUT WOMEN?
What else can you talk about?
flush

OKAY, EVERYONE'S APART FROM THEIR FAMILIES AND GIRLFRIENDS. MAYBE SOME OF US GET A LITTLE LONELY OVER TIME.
ANY TIME A SKIRT WALKS BY, EVERYONE TURNS AND STARES!
LIES DOWN
... CLOTHES, GIRL-FRIENDS, DATES ... STUFF LIKE THAT.
OF COURSE WE TALK! ABOUT WOMEN, CARS, SOCCER-MATCHES ...
ONE SECOND.
twitch
twitch
AND...
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ONLY OWN A SINGLE SET OF UNDERWEAR! AND ANY TIME YOU PUT SOMETHING IN THE FRIDGE, SOMEONE ELSE WILL EAT IT!
WHO CARES? IN THE SHOWERS AND WHILE WE GET DRESSED, EVERYONE'S NAKED.
HANG ON! DOES THAT MEAN THEY GET TO SEE YOU NAKED EVERY DAY?
Y-YOU ACT AS IF IT'S A CRIME!
SWOOP
dead serious
NAW. JUST A COOKING-RANGE, WATER AND A SMALL FRIDGE.
YOU SHOWER TOGETHER? YOU DON'T HAVE A BATH IN YOUR OWN ROOM? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.

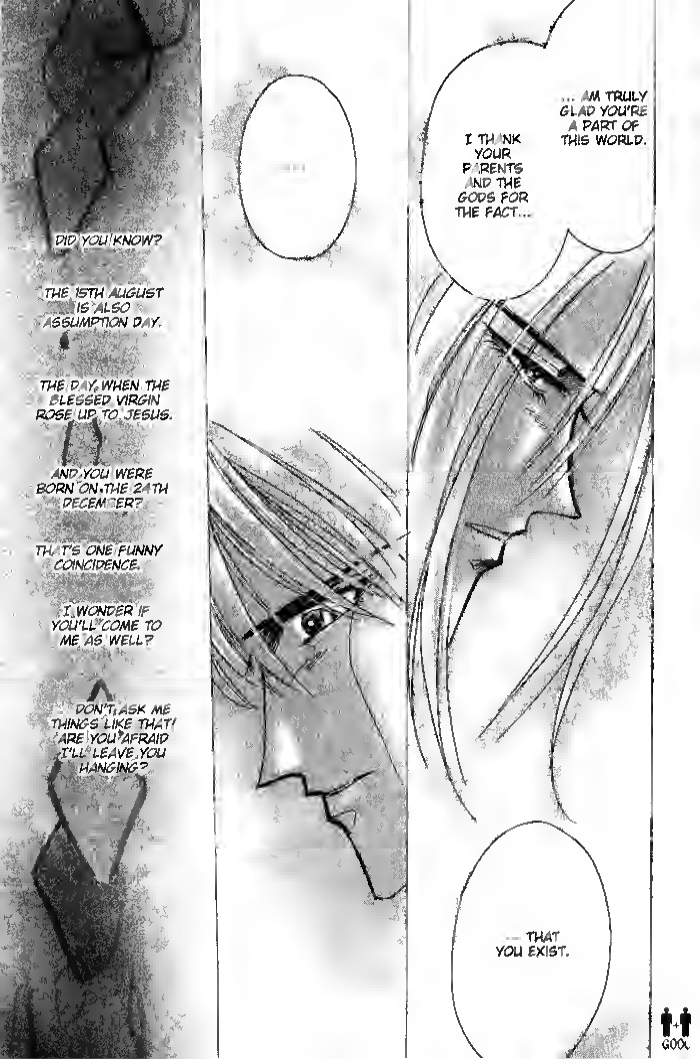
HMM...
THEN...
STRETCH
grumble
... THEY'VE ALSO SEEN THIS SCAR?
SHOCK

THEY MUST HAVE SEEN YOUR ARM AS WELL.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CARE .. WHO YOU SLEEP WITH...
ISN'T IT? A SCAR AT A PLACE LIKE THAT?
DON'T!
DON'T TOUCH THAT!
WELL?
HN
THAT'S WRONG.
IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL
SO WHAT? YOU THINK THE OTHERS DON'T HAVE ANY SCARS?
I DON'T SLEEP WITH ANYONE BUT YOU. DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
SIMPLE AS THAT?
I DON'T PUT ANY PASSION INTO IT. I COME...
... AND I USE THEIR BODIES FOR THAT. THAT'S JUST SEX, SIMPLE AS THAT.
WHAT?!
YOU ONLY HAVE SEX WITH ME
I KNOW THAT.
FOR ME, THERE'S NOTHING SIMPLE ABOUT IT AT ALL!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? 'JUST SEX, SIMPLE AS THAT'.

BATCH
I'M GOING TO MY ROOM!
WHAT? BUT—
IZUMI! WHEN I SLEEP WITH WOMEN, IT'S—
I'M ON A CAMP!
I HAVE A ROOMMATE! Don't you get it?
I snuck out while he was sleeping.
IF THEY FIND OUT I WAS GONE AT NIGHT, THERE'LL BE TROUBLE—
IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL!
A ROOMMATE? WHO...?
YOU'RE IMPOSSIBLE!
You wanted to come with me?

...SO WHAT NOW?
I'M ONLY GETTING WORKED UP.
HM. SORRY BUT I'M GLAD NOW. I WAS JUST COCKY BEFORE
IDIOT.

EH?
IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY! YOU'RE TURNING NINETEEN.
12:00
OH...!
THAT OLD ALREADY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY.
I CALLED YOU WITHOUT REMEMBERING THAT.
I'M SORRY. THIS SCATTERBRAIN DIDN'T EVEN BRING YOU A PRESENT.
THAT'S OKAY! I DIDN'T RECALL IT MYSELF EITHER.
IZUMI, I...


DID YOU KNOW?
THE 15TH AUGUST IS ALSO ASSUMPTION DAY.
THE DAY WHEN THE BLESSED VIRGIN ROSE UP TO JESUS.
AND YOU WERE BORN ON THE 24TH DECEMBER?
THAT'S ONE FUNNY COINCIDENCE.
I WONDER IF YOU'LL COME TO ME AS WELL?
DON'T ASK ME THINGS LIKE THAT! ARE YOU AFRAID I'LL LEAVE YOU HANGING?
...
I THINK YOUR PARENTS AND THE GODS FOR THE FACT...
... AM TRULY GLAD YOU'RE A PART OF THIS WORLD.
... THAT YOU EXIST.

GOOL
JUMP
IF YOU HADN'T BEEN BORN, I'D HAVE BEEN DEAD BY NOW MY LIFE WAS MEANINGLESS BEFORE I MET YOU
SHIT!
DASH
Nobody could stop that ball!
NICE SHOT, TAKU!
PANT PANT

AAH!
I see!
THEY MUST BE HERE FOR TAKU-SAN'S AND YOT-CHAN'S BIRTHDAYS!
WHAT ARE ALL THOSE GIRLS DOING HERE?
EEEK!!
KYAAA!
whisper
During summer, there's more of them every day! They love it when we play shirt-less!
REALLY?
TODAY'S YOUR BIRTHDAY, TOO, TAKU?
HE-HE-HE
Wait please, I'm all sweaty!
HE-HE-HE
TAP TAP TAP
KIMURA-SAN, IT'S TERRIBLE! We should demand money!
Congratulations!
IT TURNS OUT THAT IT'S TAKU'S BIRTHDAY TOO, TODAY!
But he doesn't want any presents.
WHAAT?
Him too?
Isn't one item enough?!
Besides Taku, I'm not even having a birthday today!

GOOL
UH-HUH
Is used to getting them
Has never gotten any before
IS IT ALL RIGHT TO ACCEPT PRESENTS FROM SO MANY STRANGERS?
Is it always like this?
HUUHM
THEY WANT TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK TO US
I'LL GET THE BALLS AND YOU MAKE THE GOALS
I'LL MAKE THE GOALS...!

Are you even listening to me?
THE GAGGLING OF THESE SILLY GEESE WOKE ME UP
BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN PLAYING!
IT MAY NOT SEEM LIKE MUCH TO YOU
SO PLEASE EXCUSE ME
I'M SUCH A MORON!
grumble
OH, BY THE WAY...
You would've gotten much more in Tokyo
ONLY TWO BOXES? NOT MUCH IS IT?
HERE'S THAT BRANDY YOU WANTED.
rustle
Is this the right one?
Where did you get this?
IT'S A PREMIUM!
OH.... HAVE THEY CHANGED THE BOTTLE? THANKS.
The lady behind the counter insisted I took it.
BLUSH
AND I'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE...

Cartier
AH...!
IS THAT... MY...
I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY.
?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN! HOW DID YOU...?
DID YOU ACTUALLY GO TO HIM?!
YES. AND I TOLD HIM.
"IT'S MINE, SO GIVE IT BACK TO ME."

HEY, WATCH OUT! YOU'RE HEAVY!
A HA HA HA!
You're unbelievable!
HA...
AWESOME!
THAT'S MY IZUMI!
HA—
SURE— IS THIS— OK FOR YOU?
YES
IZUMI— WILL YOU PUT IT ON FOR ME?
I can't do it alone

THE RIGHT HAND'S RING-FINGER
IT MEANS THAT YOU HAVE A LOVER

GOOL
But why?
What should I say if someone asks about it?
No no, it's too embarrassing! Why don't you put yours on too?
I'LL READ TODAY'S FORMATION NOW
LOVER...
CENTER: MASA, SUZUKI, GUSTAV, DAVID, NODA.
OFFENSE: YAMA...
Yessir!
OK!
DEFENSE: IHARA, OMURA AND MATSU.
Yes!
GOAL-KEEPER: KAWAGUCHI.

AND
TAKUTO IZUMI!
What about me?
POUT
YES!

tightens
AH! THE WAITING IS FINALLY OVER!
IT'S TIME! GET OUT!
THE CURTAIN FALLS FOR THE FIRST HALF-TIME!
Kudo
9
THE PLAYERS' MARCH UP HAS JUST BEGUN.
YOKOHAMA HAS CHANGED OVER SOMEONE WHOSE LAST PLAY WE ALL REMEMBER BECAUSE OF HIS BLOODY CRUCIATE RUPTURE. A TOP CLASS STRIKER!

WITH
IZUMI,
THE
HAS
A
SELECTION.
NISAAN
1
NISAAN
10
NISAAN
VOLUME 36
LIGHT AND SHADOW OF GLORY

BUT DOES YOKOHAMA HAVE A CHANCE OF WINNING, IF THEY HAVE TO PULL AN INJURED FORWARD THROUGH THE MATCH?
TAKUTO IZUMI IS PART OF THE FIRST SELECTION THE CROWD GOES WILD!
WE'RE CURIOUS ABOUT HOW HE'S GOING TO PLAY AFTER HIS BAD INJURY!

THE NATIONAL STADIUM IS COMPLETELY FULL!
IZUMI, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
DON'T LET US DOWN!
KEEP IT UP!
WE BELIEVE IN YOU!

DRIII
DAI
NISAAN
10
NISAAN
9

PAM
WHAAA
IT'S STARTING, ERI!
THAT'S THE KICK-OFF!
ON THE RIGHT, THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON! SUZUKI KICKS THE BALL TO PLAYER TWO!
UHN...
PAM
THE BALL'S BACK TO IZUMI!

FLASH
SUDDENLY IZUMI IS AT TOP-SPEED! DOES HE WANT TO BREAK THROUGH THE MIDDLE?
TAKUTO IZUMI! HIS LEGS CAN RUN 100 METERS IN 10.8 SECONDS! HE PASSES TWO OPPONENTS WITH LIGHTNING SPEED!
DASH

GOOL
WHAT THE...?!
WHOOSH
HE SHOOTS OUT IN A FULL SPRINT FROM THE MIDFIELD AND..
EH?!
GOOOAL!
GOOAL!
WHAH
THE OPPONENT TEAM HAS NOT REALISED IT YET AND IS STILL STANDING FROZEN
DID YOU SEE THAT? WHAT AN AMAZING SHOT!

GOOL
A MARVELLOUS COMEBACK WITHIN ONLY SIX SECONDS!
THE SHOT CAME FROM SO FAR THAT THE GOALKEEPER WASN'T EVEN ABLE TO TWITCH!
JUST SIX SECONDS AND ALREADY HIS FIRST GOAL! THE BALL WENT IN LIKE A BULLET
smile
TAKUTO, THAT WAS AMAZING!
GREAT!
TAKUTO IZUMI IS THE NEW MIRACULOUS STRIKER!
IZUMI!
IZUMI!
IZUMI!

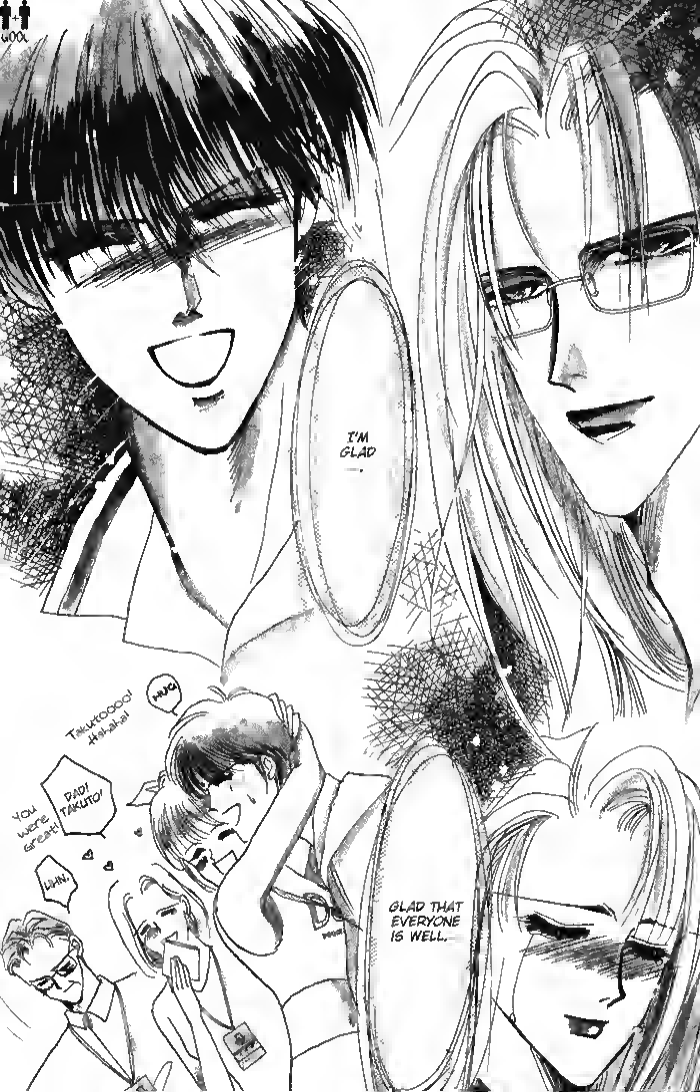
HOLY SHIT, SPORT!
RIGHT, TAKU! THAT'S IT!
GREAT SHOT!
THAT SMASHED IN!
GREAT!
AMONGST THIS BIG CROWD OF PEOPLE...

...I CAN PLAY SOCCER WITHOUT ANY DOUBTS AND WORRIES.
NISAAN
9
A LIFE IN WHICH I CAN DO WHAT I LOVE THE MOST, AS OFTEN AS I WANT TO
MY FRIENDS ARE HERE...
AND PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT ME.

GOOL
I KICK THE BALL WITH ALL MY MIGHT
AND SO MANY PEOPLE CHEER FOR ME
...AND SHARE MY JOY
TAKU!
OVER HERE!
NISA
KICK
I AM...
WHOOSH

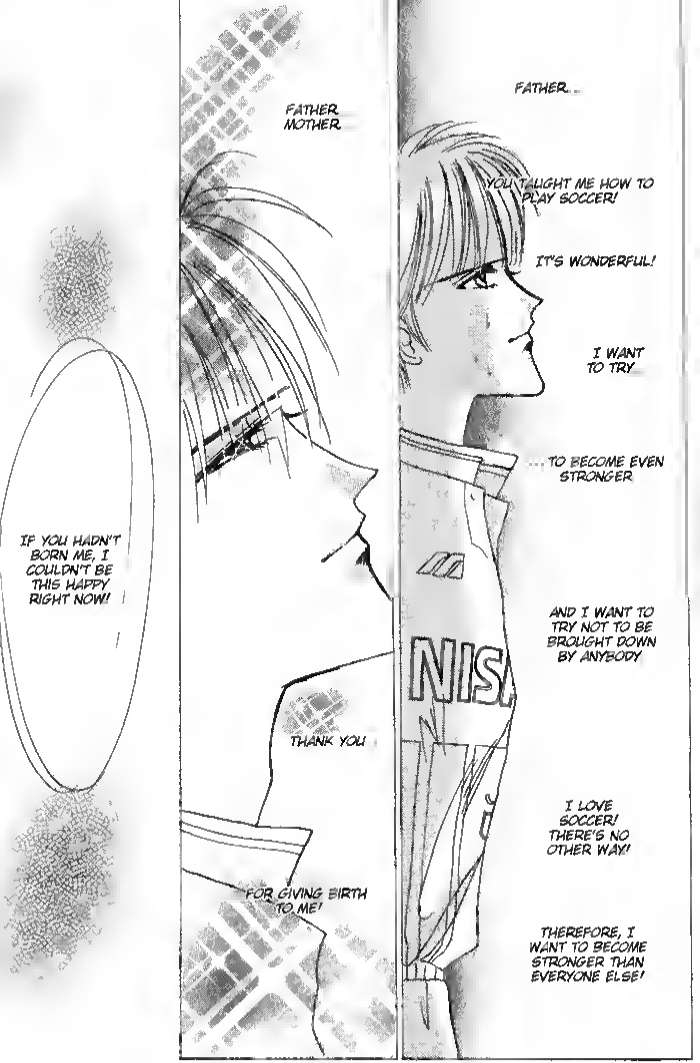
GOOL
...I'M SO INCREDIBLY HAPPY...!
That shot was unstoppable!
HE MANAGED A HATTRICK IN THE FIRST HALF!
IZUMI-SEMPAI IS SO MAGNIFICENT!
HE'S BACK TO HIS OLD SELF!
WOW

GRAB
HE LOOKS SO HAPPY
WHAT'S UP?
ERI...?
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IT'S NOTHING..
AH, NOTHING


I'M GLAD —.
GLAD THAT EVERYONE IS WELL.
Takuto000!
Hi-hi-hi!
Hihi
You were great!
Baby Takuto!
Uhhh

WAAAA!
WAAAA!
Man Of The Ma
¥100,000
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERY-ONE!
YOU PLAYED A MAGNIFICENT MATCH!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING RIGHT NOW?
MY TEAM THAT COVERED MY BACK AND CHEERED FOR ME.
AND EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED ME.
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

I'M GLAD TO BE ALIVE.
FATHER... MOTHER ...!
THANK YOU!
TAKU-TO.
TAKUTO-KUN!.


FATHER...
MOTHER...
IF YOU HADN'T BORN ME, I COULDN'T BE THIS HAPPY RIGHT NOW!
THANK YOU
FOR GIVING BIRTH TO ME!
FATHER...
YOU TAUGHT ME HOW TO PLAY SOCCER!
IT'S WONDERFUL!
I WANT TO TRY
... TO BECOME EVEN STRONGER
AND I WANT TO TRY NOT TO BE BROUGHT DOWN BY ANYBODY
I LOVE SOCCER! THERE'S NO OTHER WAY!
THEREFORE, I WANT TO BECOME STRONGER THAN EVERYONE ELSE!

SHORT TIME LATER.
WHAT...?
WEREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME?
I'M MOVING OUT OF THE DORMITORY.
I ALREADY GAVE THEM THE NOTICE. I'M MOVING BACK HOME
I DON'T EVEN HAVE MUCH BAGGAGE
HOME...?
OR DO YOU HAVE ANOTHER ONE?
OUR HOME, IDIOT.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL STAY HERE OF COURSE
SUK
OF COURSE NOT!
SNORT
WELL AFTER TRAINING, WE'LL FETCH MY BAGGAGE
TCHAK
YOU'LL BE THERE, WON'T YOU?

THE RING.
YOU WORE IT AT THE MATCH YESTERDAY.
THANK YOU.
IT HAD NO DEEPER MEANING
My joints are swollen.
BLUSH
I TRIED TO TAKE IT OFF, BUT I COULDN'T.
O-OH, THIS?
OK.
SMILE
I WON'T GO TO TRAINING TODAY. I'LL BE WAITING HERE FOR YOU.
HUH? WHY NOT?
THE STANDS ARE SURELY BURSTING TODAY. EVERYONE WILL LIKE TO WATCH YOU.
'Cause of yesterday
AH, NONSENSE!
OK, SOME OF THEM APPEAR BECAUSE OF ME. IT'S TROUBLESOME.
They'll all come for Yoshisan.
SIGH... ALL RIGHT.

SO, SEE YOU LATER!
adidas
OUR HOME...
gulp
I AM AFRAID .. IZUMI

IZUMI!
SENSATIONAL DEBUT
SENSATION!
I AM SO HAPPY
...THAT IT FRIGHTENS ME
A NEW STAR IN THE SOCCER WORLD!
IZUMI, LIKE A BRAND NEW PERSON RIGHT AFTER A BAD INJURY
Takuto Izumi (19) Five goals in his first season
TAKUTO IZUMI, THE SENSATIONAL STRIKER OF YOKOHAMA
flap
EASY GAME FOR YOKOHAMA

FATHER?
YOU DID NOT SHOW UP FOR BREAKFAST
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?

IT'S ALL RIGHT
I'M COMING
TATSUOMI!
TWITCH
DOES YOUR LEG STILL HURT FROM TRAINING?
I AM SORRY I WASN'T CARE-FUL ENOUGH
IT'S GOING TO GET BETTER SOON.
YES!
DID YOU LET IT REST?
THAT'S GOOD. GO EASY ON IT FOR A WHILE
GOOD

AFTER ALL, YOU ARE OUR ONLY AND MOST TREASURED HEIR TO OUR FAMILY.
SMILE
YES, FATHER!
HIROSE! COME ALREADY!
I'm starving!
I'M SORRY. THERE WAS AN INTERESTING ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER.
WHICH ARTICLE ...?

HIROSE!
YOU PROMISED TO SHOW UP AT THE M COMPANY WITH ME TONIGHT
YES, FATHER!
TATSUOMI
MAKE SURE TO BE HOME EARLY THIS EVENING WE HAVE TO TRAIN
A SIMPLE BANQUET DOESN'T REQUIRE MY ATTENDANCE
FOR THIS UNIMPORTANT GATHERING YOUR PRESENCE WILL BE ENOUGH
IT'S ABOUT TIME I PAY MORE ATTENTION TO TATSUOMI
There will be only old geezers there!
HOLD ON ..!
SUCH TASKS ARE YOUR JOB!
AND RESTRAIN THIS TONE OF VOICE! YOU'RE MY RIGHT HAND NOW
Blurg

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT GETTING MARRIED AND STARTING YOUR OWN FAMILY?
THE LIAISON IS ALREADY ARRANGED. IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU
GNN
BUT I DON'T WANT TO!
I DON'T WANT TO BE TREATED LIKE A LIFELESS PUPPET!
I WANT TO LIVE MY OWN LIFE!
stands up
AKIHITO.
DASH
FATHER.
LEAVE HIM ALONE. HE WAS NEVER ABLE TO CONTROL HIS TEMPER.

YOU'LL NEVER BECOME THIS WAY!
THE FACT THAT HE W S EDU- C TED THIS WAY... IS MY FAULT.
YES, FATHER.
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS CRAP, HIROSE?
TATSUOMI, TATSUOMI — YOU ONLY CARE ABOUT THIS BRAT!
I'M SUPPOSED TO GET MARRIED? THEY WANT TO GET RID OF ME SO BADLY, HUH?
AM I SUCH A PAIN IN YOUR ASS?

SINCE WHEN WAS HE INTERESTED IN...?
FLAP
DIDN'T HE MENTION AN ARTICLE JUST NOW?
I really want to know!
HM?
RUSTLE

AT FIRST THIS BRAT AND NOW HIM!
I HAVE TO GET RID OF THEM! EVEN BETTER, I SHOULD GET RID OF EVERYTHING THAT DRAWS HIROSE'S ATTENTION AWAY!
HE EVEN SUBSCRIBES TO SPORTS PAPERS!
HIROSE IS USUALLY SO METICULOUS! IS THIS THE REASON HE WAS TEN MINUTES LATE TODAY?
BUT... THAT'S KOJI'S ...!
KANNOPA
SINCE WHEN DOES HE READ THIS CHEAP TRASH?
DOES HE STILL OCCUPY HIMSELF WITH THEM?

VOLUME 37 DOUBTS

HM...?
IT'S ALREADY NOON. GET UP...
HH... HN...
HN...
IZUMI...

NOON?!
JOLT
LINK
WHOOSH!
YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY HOLI~DAY~Y!
OH... YOU REALLY SHOCKED ME
Don't ever do that again
DROP
Take it easy!

Is it broken?
MY NOFE! (My nose!)
WHY DO YOU LOAF AROUND RIGHT THERE OF ALL THINGS?
ONE FING'F FOR DURE, YOU WAKE UP EAFILY— (One thing's for sure, you wake up easily.)
tremble tremble tremble
SMACK
HUMP HUMP HUMP
he got a nosebleed
IT'S A NICE VIEW FROM DOWN HERE.
whisper
FLAP

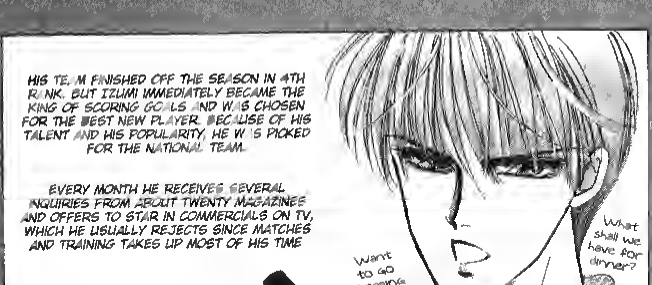
OUCH OUCH OUCH OUCH
YOU HAVE TO W_CE ME UP EARLIER! THAT'S HARM TO MY SHAPE!
THAT'S YOUR OWN FAULT!
I've you turn off my harm alook?
HOP
YOU LECHER!
You know your fake tears won't work so stop
AW...
...WHO IS THE LECHER HERE...?

FLUSH
?!
twitch
flop
ultra cool
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO GETS HORNY AFTER EVERY MATCH
YOU MOANED LUSTFULLY FOR MORE beep WHEN MY XXX beep PIERCED YOU AND I XXX beep YOU YOU COULDN'T GET ENOUGH!
Tss! Tss! Tss! This is still a should mansa!

GET DOWN ON YOUR KNEES!
seethe seethe
OH! I BEG YOUR PARDON, MY QUEEN!
WE'LL TALK LATER!
NEXT TIME I'LL LEND YOU A VIDEO
phew
NEXT TIME YOU'LL BE TOPPED
Who are you calling queen?
Do you think,
HOW DOES HE KNOW WHAT I'M THINKING?
I didn't say a thing.

WE'LL GO FOR A WALK RIGHT AWAY!
SLURP
GOOD MORNING, JESUS!
PAT PAT PAT
Can you please look after him Taku-chan? He is really a sweet one!
Sorry I don't have enough time.
Jesus belongs to Katsumi
chu
OK! I'm coming!
Natural enemies
I've started to hate this beast!
IZUMI! LUNCH IS READY!

IT'S BEEN FOUR MONTHS SINCE IZUMI'S FIRST MATCH


HIS TEAM FINISHED OFF THE SEASON IN 4TH RANK. BUT IZUMI IMMEDIATELY BECAME THE KING OF SCORING GOALS AND WAS CHOSEN FOR THE BEST NEW PLAYER. BECAUSE OF HIS TALENT AND HIS POPULARITY, HE WAS PICKED FOR THE NATIONAL TEAM.
EVERY MONTH HE RECEIVES SEVERAL INQUIRIES FROM ABOUT TWENTY MAGAZINES AND OFFERS TO STAR IN COMMERCIALS ON TV, WHICH HE USUALLY REJECTS SINCE MATCHES AND TRAINING TAKES UP MOST OF HIS TIME
Want to go shopping afterwards?
What shall we have for dinner?

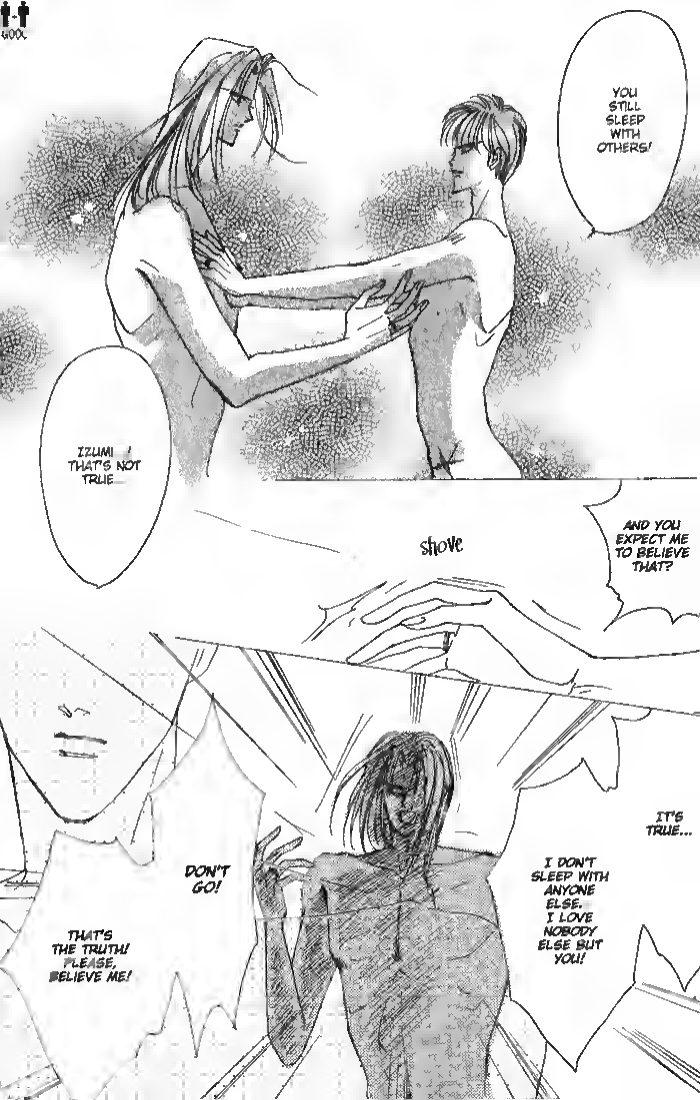
Hm. how about curry?
THE KREUZ'S DEBUT ALBUM IS NUMBER ONE ON THE CHARTS AND HAS ALREADY SOLD MORE THAN FOUR MILLION COPIES.
MORE THAN HALF OF THE ALBUM TRACKS CAN BE HEARD IN SOAPS AND TV-SPOTS. BECAUSE OF KOJI'S POWERFUL AND MASCULINE APPEARANCE, THE BAND HAS A BIG CROWD OF FANS - MEN AS WELL AS WOMEN. HE CAN BE SEEN EVERYWHERE ON TELEVISION.

WE BUILT UP A HIGH WALL AROUND OUR HOUSE TO KEEP THE FANS AND REPORTERS AWAY WHO BLOCK THE ESTATE EVERY DAY.

SOON, IT'S WINTER TIME AGAIN...
I NEVER LIKED NANJO KOJI BUT NOW HE IS TOTALLY IN
HE LOOKS SO GOOD AND HIS SONGS ARE SIMPLY GREAT!
YES, THE KRELIZ'S SONGS ARE SPLENDID, ESPECIALLY FOR KARAOKE!
You want to try?
EEEEK!
TAKUTO-KUN?! HE IS SOO CUTE!
And his eyes! Uwaaah
I GOT his autograph!? He shook my hand and even took a photo with me!! I could die!
WHAT I LIKE ABOUT HIM? HIS PASSION WHILE PLAYING FOOTBALL! THAT'S SIMPLY AMAZING!
He plays so devotedly!
I waited six hours to get it!
YES, YES I KNOW THAT HE AND KOJI LIVE TOGETHER. THEY HAVE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE THEY WERE KIDS. DO YOU THINK THAT'S ODD?
WHY, IT'S A GREAT SIGHT WHEN HE PLAYS HIS CHAUFFEUR! THEY LOOK INCREDIBLE TOGETHER!
KYA HA HA HA
HE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER STARS
GOO

HEY
WHAT'S UP?
TIME-OUT!
pant pant
I DON'T ASSOCIATE GOOD MEMORIES WITH THE WINTER TIME
HM...
WHAT ABOUT THIS?

THEN LET US CREATE NICE ONES THIS YEAR
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
NICE MEMORIES?
YEAH TOGETHER
ONLY THE TWO OF US


YOU STILL SLEEP WITH OTHERS!
IZUMI ! THAT'S NOT TRUE
shove
AND YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?
IT'S TRUE...
I DON'T SLEEP WITH ANYONE ELSE. I LOVE NOBODY ELSE BUT YOU!
DON'T GO!
THAT'S THE TRUTH! PLEASE, BELIEVE ME!

IF YOU KEEP YOUR PROMISE UNTIL I DIE...
... AND AFTER MY DEATH THEN I'LL BELIEVE YOU FOR THE FIRST TI...
NOT ONE MOMENT EARLIER

IF YOU WANT ME, TRY TO KEEP YOUR PROMISE FOR YOUR WHOLE LIFE
IF YOU THINK THIS WILL TAKE TOO LONG, YOU CAN GIVE UP RIGHT NOW.
THE WORD "BELIEVE" IS THE MOST MENDACIOUS WORD I'VE EVER HEARD.
THEREFORE, I DON'T BELIEVE IN "BELIEVE".

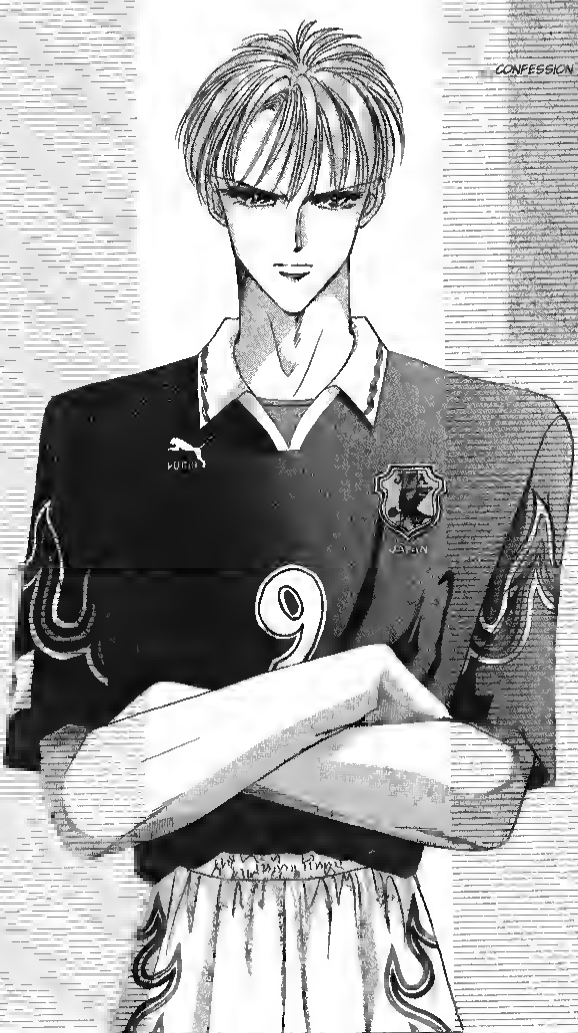
I'M NOT SATISFIED EASILY.

THAT'S JUST THE WAY I AM.

THE WAY HE WAS STANDING THERE

...IT W S...
MY WHOLE LIFE...
...LIKE "HOLY ABSOLUTION"... SO REVERENCE-DEMANDING...
EVEN IF I HAVE TO RISK MY LIFE... I LOVE YOU...
...UNTIL ETERNITY!
...THAT I FELT DIZZY.

AN AMATEURISH...
...BUT HEART-RENDING
FORGIVE ME ..


PUMA
JAPAN
9

"FORGIVE ME..."
"...UNTIL ETERNITY..."
"... UNTIL ETERNITY..."

SUCH BAD MANNERS...!
DID I BRING YOU UP THIS WAY, AKIHITO?
WHAM

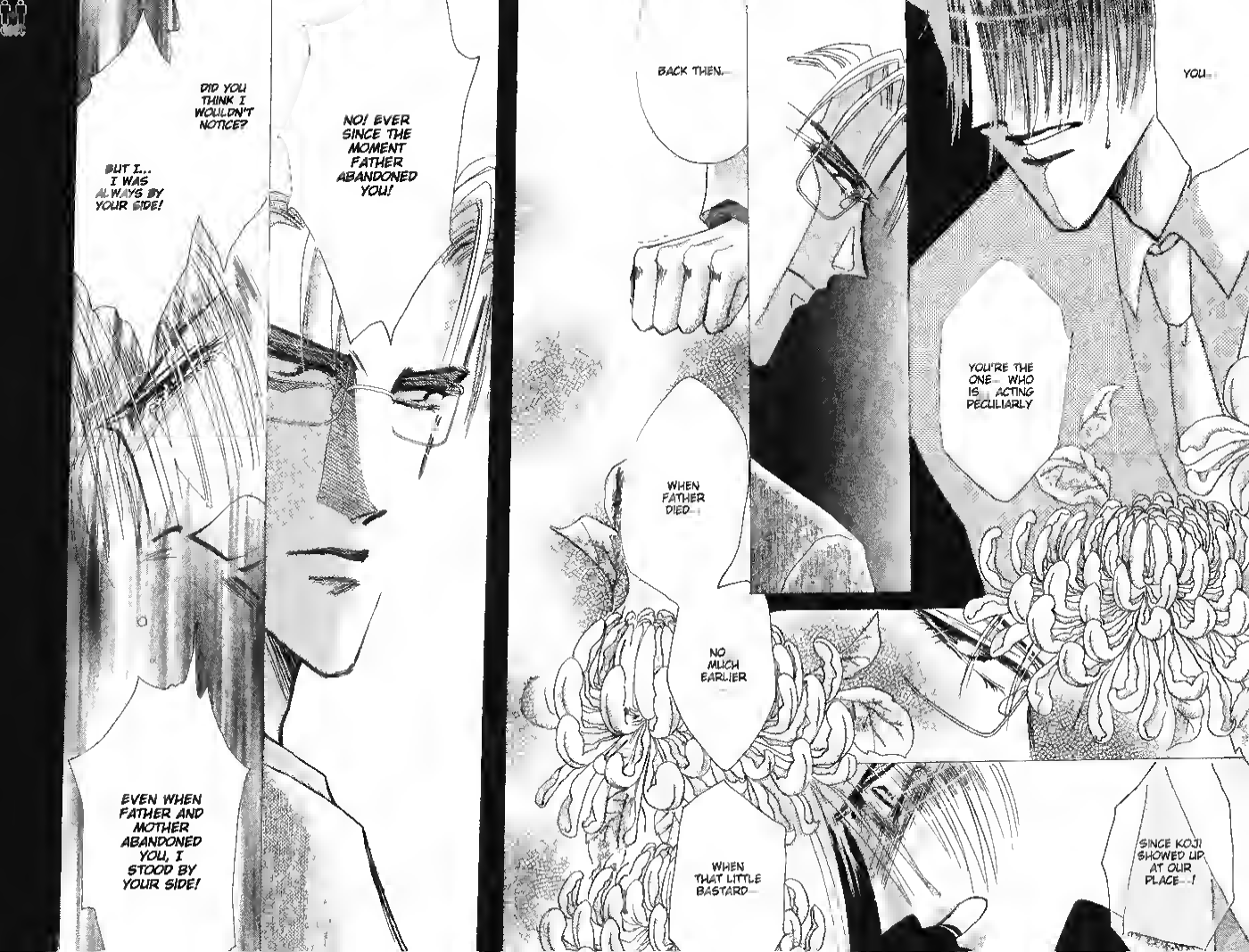
HAH!
HIROSE
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU WATCHING SOMETHING LIKE THAT

WHAT'S UP? YOU'VE NEVER WATCHED A FOOTBALL MATCH BEFORE!
EVEN YOU KNOW THAT OUR COMPANY SPONSORS OWN A J-LEAGUE TEAM.
SURE. I'M NOT THAT STUPID.
BUT SINCE WHEN DOES THIS TEAM DEMAND YOUR ATTENTION
...
IF YOU WANT TO TELL ME SOMETHING, THEN JUST DO SO.

Ulush
LOOK INTO MY EYES
THAT'S RIGHT! THERE'S SOME-THING.
YES...!
WHAT'S WRONG?
twitch

CARESS
AH...
FOR...
GIVE ME...

YOU'RE ACTING STRANGE RECENTLY, AKIHITO.
WHY ARE YOU SO ANGRY?
shock
tremble
FALL

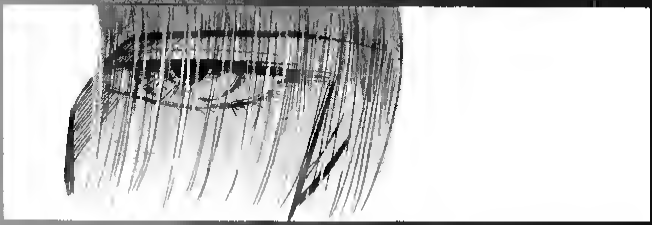

EVEN WHEN FATHER AND MOTHER ABANDONED YOU, I STOOD BY YOUR SIDE!
BUT I... I WAS ALWAYS BY YOUR SIDE!
DID YOU THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE?
NO! EVER SINCE THE MOMENT FATHER ABANDONED YOU!
WHEN THAT LITTLE BASTARD—
NO MUCH EARLIER
WHEN FATHER DIED—!
BACK THEN...
SINCE KOJI SHOWED UP AT OUR PLACE—!
YOU'RE THE ONE— WHO IS— ACTING PECULIARLY
YOU...!

PLEASE, HIROSE
NOW THAT FATHER IS DEAD...
CAN'T THINGS BE THE WAY THEY WERE BACK THEN?
TELL ME! I WOULD DO ANYTHING!
ISN'T THERE A WAY I CAN HELP YOU? SO THAT IT WILL BE THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US
I WAS ALWAYS BY YOUR SIDE!

SHALL I KILL HIM?
PERHAPS THEN IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT AGAIN THAT BASTARD—
HIS BIRTH WAS A MISTAKE! HIS VERY EXISTENCE IS A NUI-SANCE!
HE'S DRIVING ME INSANE, I WANT TO KILL HIM!
FOOLISH LITTLE BOY!
WHAT WOULD THAT DO?
KILLING HIM WOULD MAKE NO SENSE

...UNGH!
SLAM
DASH
...

IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER, IF HE DIDN'T EXIST..



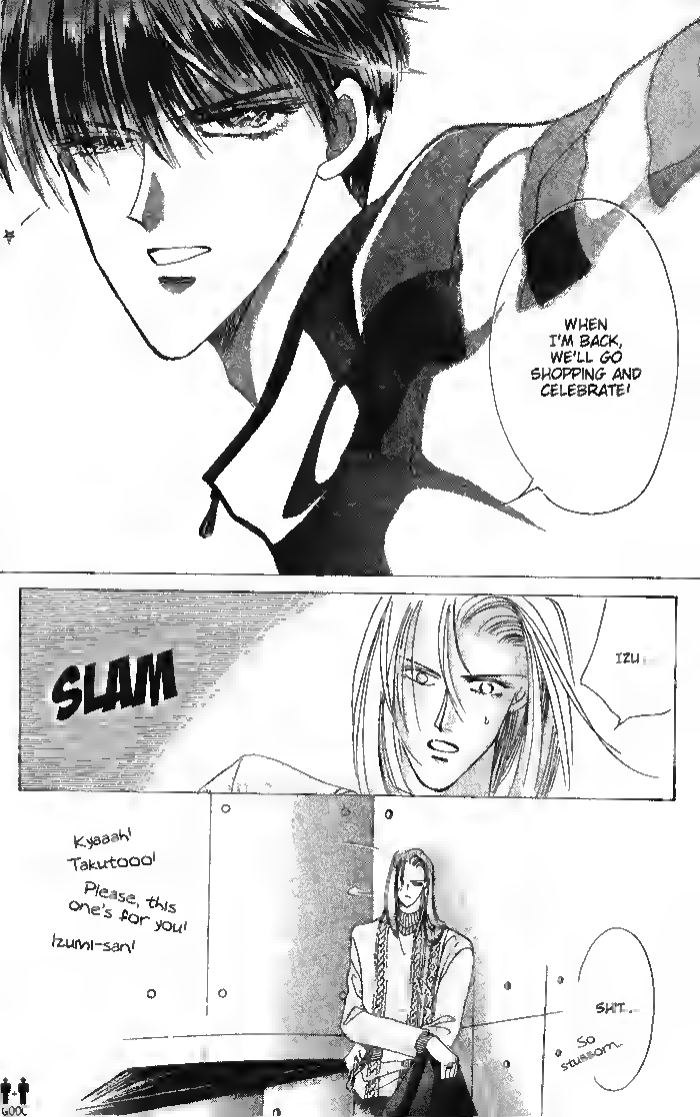
I'LL [illegible] HIM...

I'LL ERASE EVERY-THING THAT GETS IN YOUR WAY, HIROSE!
FOR THAT YOU CAN LIVE IN PEACE AND BE MY MASTER AGAIN.
VOLUME 36 CHRISTMAS EVE

rattle
UNGH!
THAT'S ENOUGH.
CLANG
OK.

I'M JUST FOLLOWING YOUR TRAINING ROUTINE AND IT SAYS IN RED CAPITAL LETTERS: DO NOT OVER-WORK!
Huff
YOU'RE ALREADY OVER-DOING IT ANYWAY
THAT WAS ALL?
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
YOU'RE ON NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS NOW SO, JUST RELAX!
withdrawal symptoms!
I NEED MY FOOT-BALL!
BESIDES
TONIGHT, YOU BELONG TO ME! YOU PROMISED!

You ready?
Wanna go for a walk?
HEY! JESUS! YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR QUITE A WHILE, HAVEN'T YOU?
C'MON, LET'S GO FOR A WALK!
SQUEEZE
Wait for me!
THEN I'LL COME ALONG!
YOU REALLY WANNA GO OUT? THERE'S A DAMN HUGE CROWD OF FANS OUTSIDE!
Today is Christmas Eve.
IF I ACCEPT THEIR GIFTS, THEY'LL LET ME THROUGH ONLY ONE ROUND!
CHASED WITH A DOG BY YOUR FANS? HAHA! YOU BETTER WAIT HERE!
HA HA HA
RUN RUN
Can't shake them off!
IZUMI!!


WHEN I'M BACK, WE'LL GO SHOPPING AND CELEBRATE!
SLAM
IZU
Kyaaah! Takutooo!
Please, this one's for you! Izumi-san!
SHT..
So staaasom

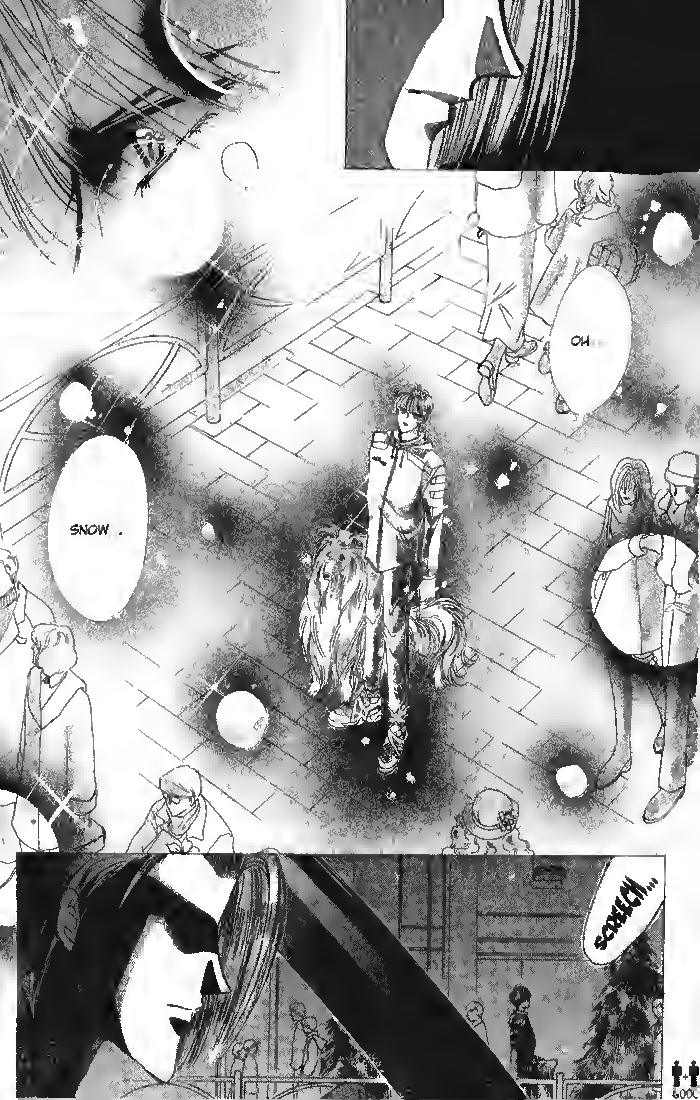
I'M HAPPY!
A GENTLE, SOFT FEELING
I WANT TO THANK EVERYBODY.
EVERYBODY AND EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD EVEN GOD IF HE EXISTS
FOR THE JOY OF BEING ABLE TO WALK AGAIN

GOOL
JESUS!
WE'LL TAKE A LITTLE SHORTCUT TODAY.
WOOF
Scree...
COUPLES AND COLOURFUL LIGHTS EVERYWHERE..
SEEMS LIKE MY JOGGING SUIT IS KIND OF OUT OF PLACE...
WELCOME
IZUMI-SAMA.
LIKE EVERY YEAR AT KOJI'S BIRTHDAY

GOOD AFTERNOON! YOUR ORDER HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!
DOES IT APPEAL TO YOU?
OH... THANK YOU
WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IT?
YES, PLEASE
THEN PLEASE FOLLOW ME
WHEN I SAW IT LYING IN THE DISPLAY WINDOW, I THOUGHT IMMEDIATELY OF KOJI.
AH... YES
THIS MODEL IS A VERY POPULAR CHRISTMAS GIFT. IT'S ALREADY SOLD OUT.
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU ORDERED IT IN ADVANCE
I NEVER BOUGHT SOMETHING THIS SIGNIFICANT AND EXPENSIVE
BUT I KNEW IT'S JUST THE RIGHT PRESENT FOR KOJI
I'LL WRAP IT UP FOR YOU

ON MY BIRTHDAY THIS YEAR, KOJI GAVE ME AN EXPENSIVE RING
I'LL POLISH IT QUICKLY
PLEASE EXCUSE MY BEING RASH
THAT'S NOT NECESSARY! I'LL TAKE IT LIKE THIS
"FOR YOUR LEFT RING FINGER?" HE SAID
YES, PLEASE.
NOW I'M WEARING RINGS ON BOTH OF MY HANDS. I HAD TO FIGHT SOME HARD BATTLES IN INTERVIEWS
AH...
I WAVED THEM OFF AS FASHION JEWELLERY
UHM...
I HAVE ONE MORE REQUEST...
BUT KOJI DOESN'T HAVE TO CARE ABOUT THAT. HE WEARS GLOVES IN PUBLIC
THOUGH A NECKLACE...
DID I MENTION THAT OUR STORE DOES NOT GIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE WISHES OF OUR CUSTOMERS?
CONCERNING THIS ITEM, NO ONE BUT I KNOWS ABOUT IT.

GOOL
Smile
SO, IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER WISHES
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
ACTUALLY, IT'S NOT MY THING.
I'M CURIOUS! HOW HE'LL REACT
I GUESS HE'S GOING TO BE VERY SURPRISED.
DID YOU WAIT LONG?
LET'S GO BACK AND CELE-BRATE!


OH...
SNOW.
SCRATCH...

EVERY TIME I SEE SNOW, I ALWAYS GET A BAD FEELING..
IT'S COLD AND WET. AND IT FEELS LIKE I'M GOING TO FREEZE TO THE CORE..
whine
BUT I DON'T HATE IT. IT'S WHITE, SOFT AND SO BEAUTIFUL.
THAT IT FRIGHTENS ME.
Cadabra
BUT NOW, THE UNCOMFORTABLE FEELING'S GONE..
...AND IT APPEARS WARM TO ME...
I WONDER WHY.
IT'S STILL COLD AND WET, BUT...

PERHAPS...
whine
IF THERE'S REALLY A GOD...
...PERHAPS...
PERHAPS...
...I SHOULD PRAY FOR US.
HEY!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT WE'LL GO NOW
whine
nudge
whine

I'M HAPPY
I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE
NOTHING ELSE...
CLACK

DIE!

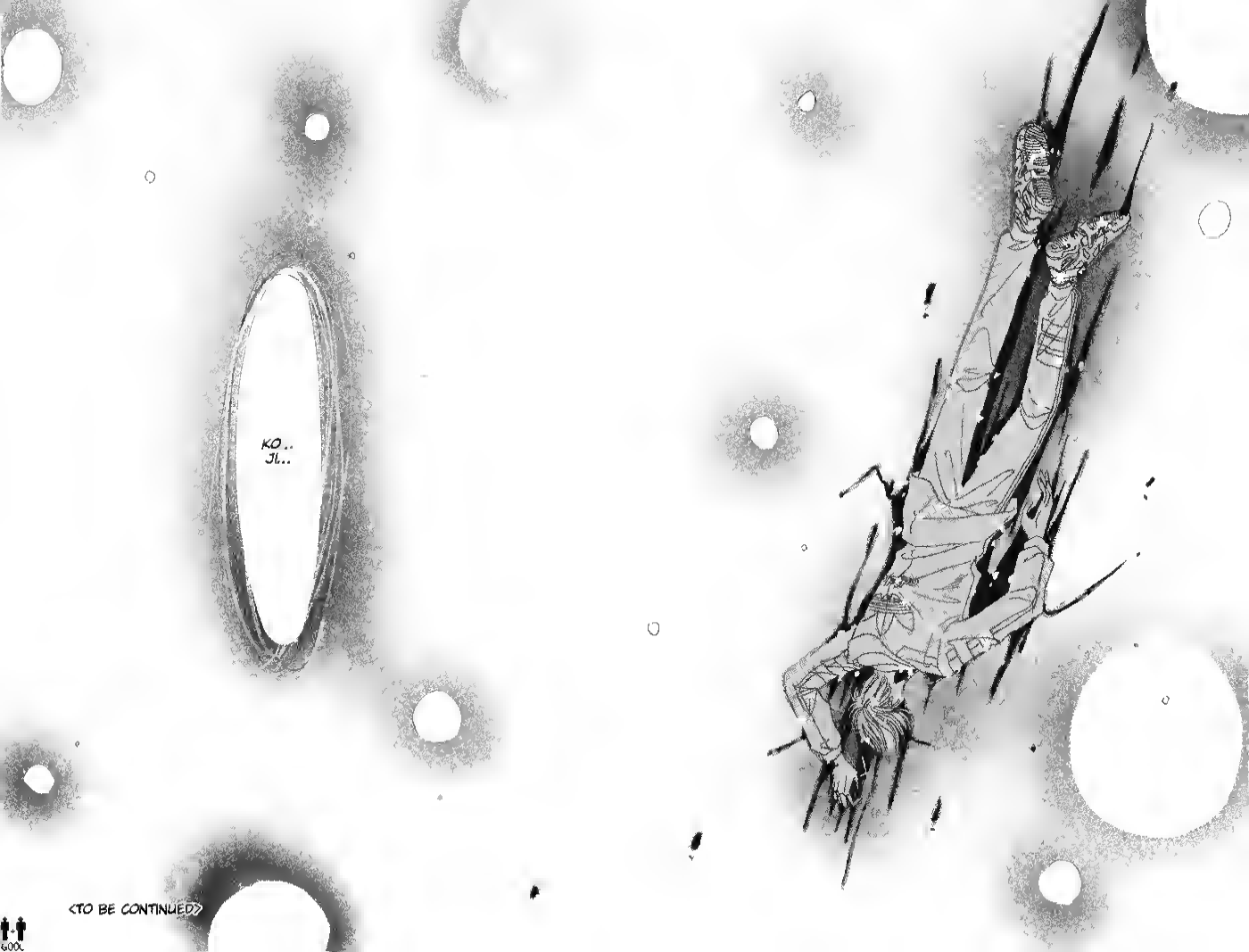
SCREEECH

CLONK
POM
POM
POM
AAH..!
ROLL
IYAAAAGH!

KYAAAAAH!
AN ACCIDENT!
SOME-BODY CALL THE POLICE!

IS HE DEAD? HEY!!
DON'T TOUCH HIM! WHERE'S THE AMBULANCE?
drip
drip
LEAVE THE CAR ALONE!

...AH...
twitch
...GOD..
twitch
JE
SUIS
VROOM
KO..
VROOM


KO..
JI..
<TO BE CONTINUED>